

Due: November 10, 2014

Dior Thompson

Mi Papel de Día de Los Muertos

My Día de Los Muertos paper is on my Great-Aunt Clarisse. She was the sister of my maternal grandma. She is the most recent occurring death that I can remember. She died in January 15th 2012.

Aunt Clarisse was important to me because she always found a way to keep the family together. She was my grandma's closest friend and confidant. We used to get together all the time for different types of celebrations to revel and enjoy our culture and family. All of our family used to come together from all over the U.S to gather. Overall, if I were to say what she was to me I would say , she was someone to be cherished. Auntie, always looked out for me and loved me even though I wasn't one of her own. I have tons of memories as a child of her & her husband of 54 years (My Uncle Paul).

A specific memory I can remember is my cousin Cierra and I catching fireflies in mason jars and setting them amuck in their house. She was always very brass but she was kind. I remember her having a undertone of a thick African accent. Auntie Clarisse was always wearing something to show that she was African.

The reason why I decided to create my sugar skull in remembrance of her is because, she was the strongest example of a matriarch my family had. She had a funky type of fashion type and was a fan of bright colors. Bright colors represented her attitude and outlook on life. I made my mask and my skull in the same fashion I believe represented her spirit. Loud but inconspicuous at the same time. I believe that if I were to put her mask on , in that time I would be able to have a grasp on the same courageous qualities that she had.

The holiday of Día de Los Muertos made me change my perspective of how we could've dealt with her death. My family took it really hard when her death happened. It was completely unexpected. She had decided to go home to Africa because she wanted to build their dreamhouse in her "motherland" (as she called it). While she was down their making preparations for their house, she got sick. (They wouldn't tell me specifics because they were so distraught). Africa didn't have the necessary medical supplies to take care of her so she passed on. I believe she shouldn't have died , and the only reason she did is because of the issues that other countries have with Africa. If Africa had help in their efforts for better medical care then she'd still be here with us. There is no ulterior motive of her death, nothing good came from it. Family ties were broken, families scarcely see each other.

To conclude, I think the best way for me to celebrate her is to make both my skull and mask in her image because her life was filled with happy memories and a great capacity of love. I honestly didn't realize how much she meant to me until I finished writing this paper in

remembrance of her. The impact her life had on me is unexplainable. I honestly didn't realize how much she meant to me, until I finished writing this paper in remembrance of her.

Her life was a celebration why shouldn't her death be too...

Eulogy:

Hola , Me llamo Dior.

Yo tengo quince años.

La hermana de mi abuela fue de Liberia. (O)

Ella fue la hermana de mi abuela. (I)

Ella fue muy bonita e inteligente. También ella fue amable y alegre. ©

Mi tío está en el cementerio nacional de Nueva Jersey. (L)

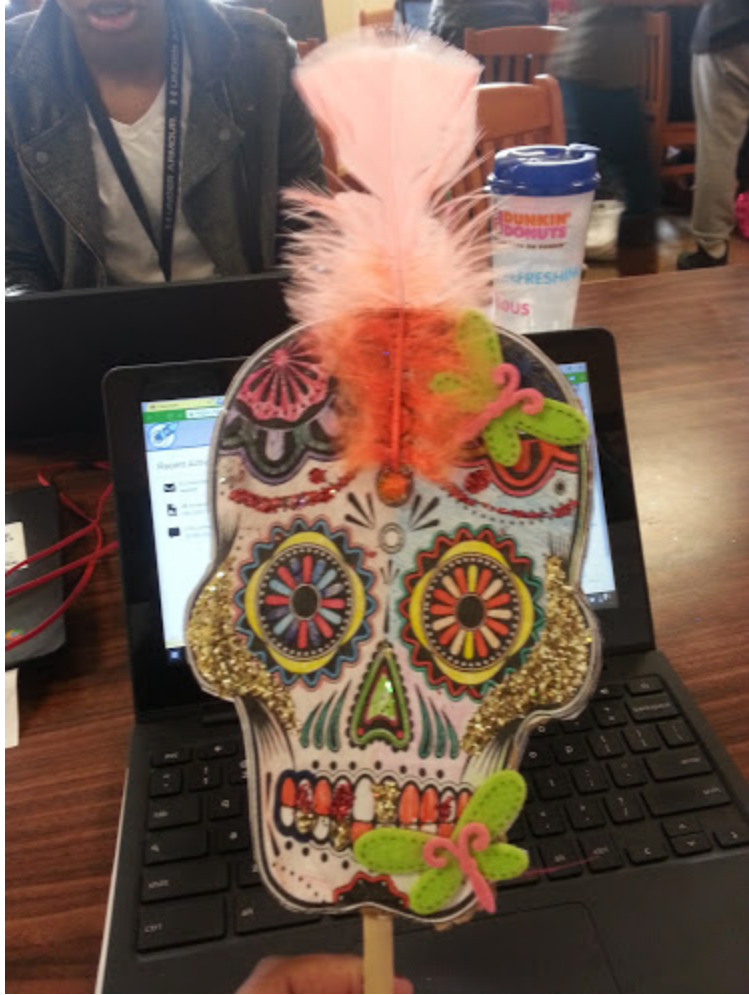
Nosotros llevamos flores para ella ©

Ella va a estar en nuestro corazón.

Ojala tu cómoda duermas tú.

Descansa eterna.





Who is the person that passed away?

What did this person mean to you?

Why did you decide to create your sugar skull in remembrance of this person?

How does your sugar skull reflect this person?

How has “Día de los Muertos” opened your mind up to celebrating the passing of loved ones?